



CALPEEK

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Dick Rosengarten, Publisher

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ABORTION FIGHT LOOMS AS WILSON INTRODUCES CALIF'S NEW \$61.5 BILLION BUDGET FOR 1996-97.

Editor's note: Here's our analysis of Gov. Pete Wilson's newest headache: the 1996 battle over *abortion funding* in the new \$61.5 billion budget...

...There's big trouble brewing for Gov. Wilson over *Medi-cal abortions* (\$35.5 million in 1994) and funding for the Office of Family Planning (\$71 million budget). These programs are once again targeted by *hardline conservatives* in the legislature --- only this time they may have the political muscle to deliver...

...With the surprise election of Rob Hurtt as the GOP Senate Leader and the recent election of Curt Pringle as Assembly Rules Cmt. Chair (and Speaker), the GOP has the power to cut or drastically reduce funding for these programs. Both are very opposed to abortion. Several sources think hardliners will attempt to reduce funding, rather than completely cut these programs, because they might lose a court fight - (the CA Supreme Court has upheld abortion funding for poor women)...

...In the 1995 budget debate, an Assembly amendment to the budget to cap Medi-cal abortion funding (and then to allow funding only for rape, incest, etc.) was defeated 32-43. Another amendment to cut the budget for the Office of Family Planning also failed on a 30-43 vote. Despite these wins by pro-choice forces in 1995, sources feel the Assembly vote could be closer in '96...

...Demos will be allied with Gov. Wilson and a handful of pro-choice Republicans in this fight. The CARAL list of solid pro-choice GOP Assemblymembers includes Brewer, Goldsmith and Cunneen. CARAL's list of mixed-vote/pro-choice GOPers includes Kuykendall, Firestone, Rainey, McPherson and Weggeland. These members are pro-choice, but oppose public funding. They will be under pressure from both sides...

...The first real tip that Gov. Wilson would have trouble on this issue surfaced Jan. 9th when Calif. Prolife, the Calif. affiliate of the Nat'l Rt. to Life Cmt., blasted Gov. Wilson with a faxed news release (Right To Life Calls Wilson's State of State Speech A Sham). Stay tuned...

CA INITIATIVE UPDATE: SOURCES PREDICT 10-12 MEASURES ON CALIF.'S NOVEMBER '96 BALLOT.

Editor's note: With the possibility that between 10-12 initiatives may be on the Nov. 5th ballot, it's no wonder CALPEEK calls the 1996 election cycle *The Year of the Initiative*. Here's an update, with our list of those initiatives which have the best chance of qualifying...

...To qualify a statute takes 433,269 valid signatures and a constitutional amendments requires 693,230. In order to **insure** qualification, the rule of thumb is gather twice the signatures required. Mid-April is the deadline time for turning in petitions...

...*Good Chance of Qualification:* 1-2) attorney-client fees & securities fraud, both backed by the Consumer Attorneys of CA; 3) frivolous lawsuits, backed by the anti-CAOC crowd; 4) Jarvis III; 5) competitive bidding on engineering services, backed by the Professional Engineers in CA Govt.; 6) campaign reform backed by Common Cause, United We Stand & the League of Women Voters; and 7) Personal Responsibility Act of 1996, backed by Insurance Comm. Chuck Quackenbush, which just hit the street...

...*Maybe:* 8) CCRI - they're fighting a deadline and money was a problem; 9) minimum wage hike - if they get the money; 10) cigarette & alcohol taxes for schools - if they get the money; 11) 95-5 Initiative - if they get the money; 12) freeze college tuition fees, sponsored by Lt. Gov. Gray Davis(D). Time is the

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problem, *not money*, because this measure is still at the AG's office awaiting title & summary...

...*Up in the Air*: 13) casino gaming - money is the key; 14) 10-20-Life Initiative by Mike Reynolds, limited funding is a problem; 15) non-unanimous jury verdicts, sponsored by CDAA - money problems; 16) cigarette taxes for schools - funding is the key...

- Will casino gaming get the financial backing for a qualification drive? The big money (R.D. Hubbard & DeBartolo Entertainment) folks are still looking. Also looking at this initiative is the CA/NV Indian Gaming Assn. They will meet in Sacto on Jan. 19th. But odds are good they won't be in favor of this initiative...

- Two new initiatives now on the street include: **Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination Without Quotas.** This constitutional amendment is sponsored by David B. Oppenheimer, but the contact is Bagatelos & Fadem ☎(415)982-7100...**Budget Bill. Appropriations. Taxes.** This constitutional amendment is sponsored by Bill Mashburn of Sacto ☎(916) 447-8868. Deadline for both is May 28th. FYI: The SOS's office issued the go-ahead for 8 more initiatives on Jan. 8th & 9th. When we get the list, we'll provide a brief review...

- **Prop. 203** - Added to the Mar. 26th ballot is a \$3 billion school bond measure. Stoorza, Ziegaus & Metzger(Sacto) are the campaign mgrs. There is money for this measure. Stay tuned...

CALIF. GOP PRESIDENTIAL STRAW POLL FEVER.

Editor's note: With so many pundits predicting a dull GOP presidential primary process, the CA Republican Party(CRP) has decided to spice things up by conducting a month-long *presidential straw poll*, with the results being announced at the end of the CRP's Feb. 9-11 convention at the Burlingame Hyatt Regency Hotel. Here's a brief update...

...The first batch of 200,000 ballots with the names of 9 Republican presidential candidates were mailed Jan. 9th. The results of the straw poll will be announced Feb. 11 (sometime between 10 - 11 a.m.). For those who have forgotten, the Iowa Caucus (both GOP & Demo) begins Feb. 12th. So this poll may have some impact...

...Orange Co.-based The Monaco Group handled the direct mail chores. All the ballots must be received by 5 p.m., Feb. 9 at the CRP HQ in Burbank or at the close of business at the CRP's convention on Feb. 10th. And all ballots must be accompanied by a minimum contribution of \$25. Basically this is a CRP *money drill*. A 1% return on direct mail of this kind is normal, so CRP officials hope for 3-5%. Those 200,000 GOP voters getting this mailing were from a special CRP voter file, but any registered GOP voter can request a ballot. ☎ (818)841-5210...

...Who has the best shot of winning the straw poll? U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm(R-TX) is the best organized in CA and is the favorite among CRP convention delegates. But it is millionaire publisher Steve Forbes who has the big bucks for this kind of drill. Forbes just ended his first major swing through CA this past week and he has opened a CA HQ in Sacto ☎(916)498-9600. As for GOP frontrunner Bob Dole, aside from naming AG Dan Lungren, former Gov. George Deukmejian and Gov. Pete Wilson as his top 3 honchos in Calif., he hasn't done much else. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '96: U.S. HOUSE RACES - AN UPDATE.

Editor's note: Here's the list of CA incumbent U.S. House members who are *under siege* from primary opponents. We still haven't received our certified list of candidates from the SOS's office. Our list contains 9 Republicans and 6 Demos who have Mar. 26th primary battles. Here's the update...

...*GOP Incumbents* - Wally Herger(2nd CD) vs. Devvy Kidd of Oroville...Bill Baker(10th CD) vs. Dave Williams, a Livermore businessman...Bill Thomas(21st CD) vs. Karen Gentry, a Bakersfield insurance salesperson...Buck McKeon(25th CD) vs. David B. Starr of Lancaster...Jerry Lewis(40th CD) vs. Dr. George Craig of Apple Valley...Jay Kim(41st CD) vs. Bob Kerns of Upland...Ken Calvert(43rd CD) vs. David Davis of Murietta...Bob Dornan(46th CD) vs. Katherine "Kathy" Smith of Anaheim and school board member Felix Rocha Jr. of Fountain Valley...and Randy Cunningham(51st CD) vs. David J. Pando of Solano Beach...

...*Demo Incumbents* - Vic Fazio(3rd CD) vs. research director Roger McAfee of El Nido...Ron Dellums(9th

CD) vs. human resources mgr. Randal Stewart of Oakland...**Sam Farr**(17th CD) vs. Art Dunn of Monterey and Robert Wigod of Capitola...**Howard Berman**(26th CD) vs. Steven E. Gibson of Mission Hills...**George Brown**(42nd CD) vs. Alfredo Palazzo of Rancho Cucamonga...and **Bob Filner**(51st CD) vs. San Diego Councilman Juan Vargas...

...Of the 15 incumbents who have primary contests, the only *serious* primary challenge is to Filner(D). On our *watch list* are Kim(R), Calvert(R) and Farr(D)...

☒ **24th C.D.** - In the battle to replace retiring U.S. Rep. Tony Beilenson(D), the GOP primary won't be very exciting because former L.A. City Comm. Joe Gelman failed to qualify. Not enough valid signatures on his nominating petition. GOP frontrunner Rich Sybert should not have much trouble beating rival GOPers Stephen Brecht and Kyo Jhin. On the Demo side, BoE Member Brad Sherman is the only Demo with money or name ID. The other 6 are no name candidates, most of whom didn't file reports, meaning they have little or NO money. Sherman was hoping that Gelman would qualify. Too bad...

SPEAKERSHIP WARS: THE WINNERS & LOSERS.

Editor's note: No major surprise: GOP Assemblyman Curt Pringle of Garden Grove was elected Speaker of the CA Assembly on Jan. 4th, replacing Brian Setencich of Fresno. Here's our list of *winners & losers*...

● **Big Winners** - Pringle and the GOP Assembly Caucus, plus Gov. Pete Wilson and the CA Republican Party. Other winners: new Assembly Speaker Pro Tem Fred Aguilar(R-Chino) and Bernie Richter(R-Chico), author of Richter's Rules and the tactics which led to Setencich's downfall...

● **Big Losers** - The Assembly Demos. Their operating budget will be slashed dramatically, causing a possible layoff of some 150-200 Demo staffers...

● **A Dignified Loser** - Brian Setencich. But get this: at this point Setencich has a *free ride* in November because Assembly Demos did NOT recruit a candidate to run against him. That's a gift of \$250,000 to the GOP Assembly Campaign Cmt...

● **The Brutus of Bakersfield** - All eyes are now on

Assemblyman Trice Harvey(R-Bakersfield), who said publicly that he would support Setencich and then caved in when the pressure was put on by Gov. Wilson and supposedly by House Speaker Newt Gingrich. Our Central Valley sources think he'll have a tough time in November IF he's the GOP nominee against U.S. Rep. Cal Dooley(D-Visalia)...

● **Keep Yours Eyes ON** - 1) 23rd A.D. Demo candidate David Cortese, son on Reform Party Assemblyman Dom Cortese. When Dom voted with the GOP for Richter's Rules, our sources say this has had a chilling impact on David's candidacy to replace his dad. And Dom is no longer on the State or County Demo Central Cmts. 2) Question: why did Assemblyman John Vasconcellos(D-San Jose) duck a vote on the rules change? Vasco's 13th S.D. Demo rival, popular DLC business exec Tom Hayes, is looking better and better. Stay tuned...

BROWN SWORN IN AS SAN FRANCISCO'S MAYOR.

New S.F. Mayor Willie Brown's theme in his Jan. 8th inaugural address (carried on C-SPAN) was that S.F. is a *can-do city* once again and he's going to make things happen. Although it's expected that Brown will soon name a COS and press secretary, the big news Jan 8th was the announcement that Dep. Chief of Police Fred Lau is Brown's choice to lead the SFPD. Homicide Inspector Carl Sander, the 1st black homicide inspector in the SFPD, was named Asst. Chief. For Fire Chief, Brown named Bob Demmons, currently an Asst. Chief. Demmons is black. To chair the police commission, Mayor Brown named John Kekker, the ex-U.S. Attorney who prosecuted Ollie North --- way back when. As Budget Director, Brown named Sam Yockey, an old Art Agnos hand who is highly respected among city hall insiders. Bottomline: *diversity* --- with old & new faces. But NO leaks on who Brown will name to the Bd. of Supes to replace new DA Terence Hallinan. That announcement will come soon. Stay tuned...

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CALIF. LINCOLN CLUBS SET JANUARY EVENTS.

Here's a brief rundown on CA Lincoln Club activity in the L.A. Co. area: 7:30 a.m., Jan. 19, San Gabriel chpt. hosts Assemblyman Jim Brulte at the Industry Hills Sheraton for breakfast; 12 noon, Jan. 19, South Bay chpt. hosts 53rd A.D. candidates John Morris and Dan Walker at the Torrance Marriott, Torrance; 12 noon, Jan. 23, downtown L.A. chpt., hosts 24th C.D. candidate Rich Sybert and L.A. Co. DA candidates Malcolm Jordan and Sterlin Norris at the Hotel Inter-Continental, L.A. For info & RSVPs on the above events ☎ Sheila McNichols (818)249-4205...

CALPEEK's INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

■ **Boxer In Trouble for '98?** - Conventional wisdom always has been that come 1998, Demo U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer would have a tough time winning a second term. The latest Field Poll (Dec. 3-10, among 355 registered voters) seems to confirm that. By a margin of 49% to 36%, voters are **not inclined** to support her in 1998. 72% of those who oppose her are GOPers (as expected), but among her Demo base, she's only got 55% support. Not too good...

■ **A Date With Dr. Death** - Double murderer William Kirkpatrick Jr. is due for a lethal injection at San Quentin Prison on Jan. 26th...

■ **May the FORCE Be With You** - Got lots of response from our blurb about the new "watchdog" group called Fairness and Openness in Registration, Campaigns & Elections. We only wish that FORCE's spokesperson, Nicola Mikulicich Jr. had been a little more *fair & open* with CALPEEK. We don't have a problem with FORCE's info. Our problem: who are the individuals connected with FORCE? Beyond Mikulicich, we don't know and he won't say. One of their targets, former Assemblyman Tom McClintock(R), says this is a Steve Frank/CRA operation. Mikulicich is a member of CRA and knows Frank - who like McClintock, is a 38th A.D. GOP candidate. Want to call FORCE? ☎ (310)375-4923...

■ **Tax Wars** - The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assn. (HJTA) has formed a *legal action team* to battle cities and counties which have disobeyed Prop. 62, which

guarantees voters the right to vote on taxes. A Dec. 14 ruling by the CA Supreme Court upheld Prop. 62 in a decision striking down a Santa Clara Co. sales tax. Legal team members include Trevor Grimm, Larry Straw, Jonathan Coupal, Tim Morgan and Jim Lacy...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

◆ Internat'l Communications Group(ICG) has hired Jean Brooks as a VP for its new political department in L.A. Brooks can be reached at ☎(310)557-2585...

◆ A sad note: M. Larry Lawrence, operator of the Hotel del Coronado & U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland, died Jan. 8 at his official residence in Switzerland. He was a big CA Demo fundraiser. R.I.P...

◆ Decision Research has closed it's L.A. office. All Calif. operations will now be HQed in the firm's San Diego office. The DC operation moves to 322 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Wash. DC 20002. New ☎ (202)544-9555...

◆ L.A. based campaign consultant Rick Taylor has opened a northern Calif. office in S.F., with VP Kim Hopper in charge. ☎(415)775-5467...

◆ The CA Democratic Party has hired Celia Fischer as the head of the 1996 CDP Coordinated Campaign. The CDP also hired Julie Buckner as communications director for the coordinated campaign...

◆ The Campaign Performance Group has moved its DC-area office to 2600 Virginia Ave., NW, Ste. 303, Washington DC 20037-1905. ☎(202)338-5600...

◆ Just in case you missed it, Dan Schnur has joined Pacific/West Communications Group, Inc., Sacto office as a Sr. VP. He was Gov. Wilson's press secretary...

◆ Campaign consultant Leslie Winner has changed the name of her firm L.A.-based firm to The Strategy Workshop. And add the name of Winner's son, Ethan, to the company's roster...